IN THE LINITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information (attached hereto and listed on the attached revised Form PTO-1449) at which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with the provisions at:

П 37 CFR \$1.97(b)

- · within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d); or
- within three months of the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application as set forth in 37 CFR\$1,491, or
- · before the mailing of the first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of the first Office action after the filing of a request for a continued examination under 37 CFR §1.114.

IX1 37 CFR §1.97(c)

 by the applicant after the period specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(b), but prior to the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes Serial No.: 10/813,483 Filing Date: March 29, 2004

prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by either the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) or a statement as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e), as checked below.

37 CFR §1.97(d)

 after the period specified in CFR § 1.97(c), and is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) and a statement as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below.

[if either of boxes 37 CFR \S 1.97(c) or 37 CFR \S 1.97(d) is checked above, the following statement under 37 CFR \S 1.97(e) may need to be completed.]

- [X] 37 CFR §1.97(e) Ecch item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first clied in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure streament.
- [X] 37 CFR §1.704(d) Soch Item of Information contained in the information disclosure statement was citled in a communication form of loreign potent office in a counterport foreign application and the communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.55(c) more from firthy days prior to the firing of this information disclosure statement. The production with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.704. J half large for its information conclude processor for the first production and production of 37 CFR §1.704. Table to engage in reasonable efforts to conclude prosecution under 37 CFR §1.704.
- [] The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 07-03-00 in the amount of \$18.00.0 to cover the cost of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CR § 1.7(p). Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to this deposit account.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached revised Form PTO-1449. Copies of the litems listed on the PTO-1449 form are supplied herewith, except for United States patent(s) and United States patent application publication(s) and other documents that are marked with an asteriak (*1) in the attached PTO-1449 form.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on PTO-1449 is:

[X] not given

- [] given for each listed item
- [] given for only non-English language listed item(s) [Required]
- in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the reference;

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(g), the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(h), the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional tees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 tor this information Disclosure Statement, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-0630.

Respectfully submitted.

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